

# **HMED C118: Disease in History**

**Schedule of lectures: 2003-2004**

**Course leaders: Prof. Bill Bynum & Dr. Sanjoy Bhattacharya**

**Thursdays, 12-1, Lecture Room  
Euston House, 24 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1AD.**

25<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Organisational Meeting [BB]

2<sup>nd</sup> Oct. – Historical approaches to disease [BB]

9<sup>th</sup> Oct. – The historical ecology of disease [BB]

16<sup>th</sup> Oct – Disease in the hospital: Bright's Disease & Rheumatic Heart Disease  
[BB]

23<sup>rd</sup> Oct. – Disease in the laboratory: Germ theory [BB]

30<sup>th</sup> Oct. – Disease and colonial order: Plague [SB]

**6<sup>th</sup> Nov. Reading week – No lecture**

13<sup>th</sup> Nov. – Disease and economic order: Hookworm & Plague [SB]

20<sup>th</sup> Nov. – Disease and military order: Malaria [SB]

27<sup>th</sup> Nov. – Disease and social order: Cholera [BB]

4<sup>th</sup> Dec. – Experience of illness & management of disease 1: Malaria [SB]

11<sup>th</sup> Dec. – Experience of illness & management of disease 2: Smallpox [SB]

**Christmas break**

15<sup>th</sup> Jan. – Experience of illness & management of disease 3: Tuberculosis [SB]

22<sup>nd</sup> Jan. – Disease and imperial superiority: Tuberculosis & Mental disease [SB]

29<sup>th</sup> Jan. – Disease and imperialism: Tropical Diseases [SB]

5<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Disease and heredity [BB]

12<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Disease as social diagnosis: Poverty [BB]

**19<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Reading week: No lecture**

**26<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Disease & Deviance: Homosexuality [BB]**

**4<sup>th</sup> March. – Negotiating disease 1: Influenza, public health & the law [SB]**

**11<sup>th</sup> March – Negotiating disease 2: Smallpox, compulsory vaccination & the law [SB]**

**18<sup>th</sup> March – Making of an epidemic: Anorexia nervosa [BB]**

**25<sup>th</sup> March – Historical perspectives on AIDS [BB]**

***Note:***

\* BB = Prof. Bill Bynum

\* SB = Dr. Sanjoy Bhattacharya

HMED C-118

**DISEASE IN HISTORY: READING ASSIGNMENTS**

**KEY:** Note: Unstarred items are additional useful texts for energetic students

\* Highly Recommended

\*\* Required

**SET TEXTS:**

\*\* Charles E. Rosenberg and Janet Golden (eds), *Framing Disease: Studies in Cultural History* (Rutgers University Press, 1992 [pb])

\*\* W. F. Bynum, *Science and the Practice of Medicine in the Nineteenth Century* (Cambridge University Press, 1994 [pb])

Note: Other required items will be handed out in the form of xeroxes, if copyright permits. All texts will be available through the Wellcome's Student Loan Collection and, in many instances, from the UCL Library as well.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Oct. – Historical approaches to disease [BB]**

\*\* Charles E. Rosenberg, 'Framing Disease', in Rosenberg & Golden

\*\* Bynum, *Science*, ch. 1

\* Arthur L. Caplan, 'The Concepts of Health, Illness and Disease' in Bynum and Porter (eds), *Companion Encyclopaedia of the History of Medicine* (Routledge, 1993), pp. 233-248

There are also several essays of interest in Arthur L. Caplan *et al.* (eds), *Concepts of Health and Disease: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1981). (In Student Loan, Wellcome Library)

**9<sup>th</sup> Oct. – The historical ecology of disease [BB]**

\*\* Kenneth F. Kiple, 'The Ecology of Disease', in Bynum & Porter, *Companion Encyclopaedia*, pp. 357-381

- \* Alfred W. Crosby, *Ecological Imperialism: The Biological Expansion of Europe, 900-1900* (Cambridge University Press, 1986)

**16<sup>th</sup> Oct – Disease in the hospital: Bright’s Disease & Rheumatic Heart Disease [BB]**

- \*\* Steven J. Peitzman, ‘From Bright’s Disease to ESRD’, in Rosenberg & Golden
- \*\* Bynum, *Science*, ch. 2
- \*\* R. Bright, *Reports of Medical Cases* (Longman et al., 1827), pp. 67-76
- \*\* Christopher Lawrence, ‘Definite and Material: Coronary Thrombosis and Cardiologists in the 1920s’, in Rosenberg & Golden
- \*\* Peter English, ‘Emergence of Rheumatic Fever in the 19th Century’, in Rosenberg & Golden
- \*\* J.O. Leibowitz, *The History of Coronary Heart Disease* (Wellcome Institute, 1970), pp. 1-13

**23<sup>rd</sup> Oct. – Disease in the laboratory: Germ theory [BB]**

- \*\* Bynum, *Science*, chs 4-5
- \*\* ‘Introduction’ to Andrew Cunningham and Perry Williams (eds), *The Laboratory Revolution in Medicine* (Cambridge University Press, 1992), pp. 1-13
- Bruno Latour, *The Pasteurization of France*, transl. by Alan Sheridan and John Law (Harvard University Press, 1988), Part One

**30<sup>th</sup> Oct. – Disease and colonial order: Plague [SB]**

- \*\* David Arnold, *Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth Century India* (University of California Press: Berkeley, 1993). Chapter 5, titled ‘Plague: Assault on the body’.

- \*\* I.J. Catanach, 'Plague and the Tensions of Empire: India, 1896-1918', in D. Arnold (ed), *Imperial Medicine and Indigenous Societies* (Manchester University Press: Manchester, 1988), pp. 149-171.
- \*\* Rajnarayan Chandavarkar, 'Plague panic and epidemic politics in India, 1896-1914', in T. Ranger and P. Slack (eds), *Epidemics and Ideas: Essays on the historical perception of pestilence* (Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, 1992), pp. 203-240.
- \*\* Ira Klein, 'Plague, Policy and Popular Unrest in British India', *Modern Asian Studies*, No. 22, 1988, pp. 723-755.
- \*\* M.W. Swanson, 'The Sanitation Syndrome: Bubonic Plague and Urban Native Policy in the Cape Colony, 1900-1909', *Journal of African History*, No. 18, 1977, pp. 387-410.

**6<sup>th</sup> Nov. Reading week – No lecture**  
**PLEASE WORK ON REVIEW!**

### **13<sup>th</sup> Nov. – Disease and economic order: Plague & Hookworm [SB]**

- \*\* David Arnold, *Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth Century India* (University of California Press: Berkeley, 1993). Chapter 5, titled 'Plague: Assault on the body'.
- \*\* Manjiri Kamat, 'The Palkhi as Plague Carrier': The Pandharpur Fair and the Sanitary Fixation of the Colonial State; British India, 1908-1916', in Biswamoy Pati and Mark Harrison (eds), *Health, Medicine and Empire: Perspectives on Colonial India* (Orient Longman Limited and Sangam Books: New Delhi & London, 2001).
- \*\* Soma Hewa, 'The hookworm epidemics on the plantations in colonial Sri Lanka', *Medical History*, 38 (1994), pp. 73-90.
- \*\* Anne-Emmanuelle Birn and Armando Solorzano, 'The hook of hookworm: public health and the politics of eradication in Mexico', in Andrew Cunningham and Bridie Andrews (eds), *Western medicine as contested knowledge* (Manchester University Press: Manchester, 1997), pp. 147-171.

John Ettling, *The Germ of Laziness: Rockefeller Philanthropy and Public Health in the New South* (Harvard University Press: Cambridge, MA, 1981).

### **20<sup>th</sup> Nov. – Disease and military order: Malaria [SB]**

\*\* Philip D. Curtin, 'The End of the 'White Man's Grave'? Nineteenth-Century Mortality in West Africa', *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 21 (1), 1990, pp. 63-88.

\*\* Daniel R. Headrick, *The Tools of Empire: Technology and European Imperialism in the Nineteenth Century* (Oxford University Press: New York & Oxford, 1981), Chapter 3, titled 'Malaria, Quinine and the Penetration of Africa'.

\*\* Socrates Litsios, 'Malaria Control, the Cold War, and the Postwar Reorganisation of International Assistance', *Medical Anthropology*, Vol. 17, No. 3, pp. 255-278.

\*\* Randall M. Packard, 'Malaria Dreams: Postwar Visions of Health and Development in the Third World', *Medical Anthropology*, Vol. 17, No. 3, pp. 279-296.

Philip D. Curtin, *The Image of Africa: British Ideas and Actions 1780-1850* (Madison, Wis., 1964).

### **27<sup>th</sup> Nov. – Disease and social order: Cholera [BB]**

\*\* Bynum, *Science*, ch. 3

\*\* Richard J. Evans, 'Epidemics and Revolutions: Cholera in Nineteenth-Century Europe', *Past and Present* 120 (1988), 123-146

Charles E. Rosenberg, *The Cholera Years: America in 1832, 1849 and 1866* (Chicago University Press, 1962, repr. 1987)

Reynado C. Iletto, 'Cholera and the origins of the American sanitary order in the Philippines', in David Arnold (ed), *Imperial Medicine and Indigenous Societies* (Manchester University Press, 1988). Chapter Six.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Dec. – Experience of illness & management of disease 1: Malaria

##### [SB]

- \*\* Mary J. Dobson 'Malaria in England; a geographical and historical perspective'. In W. F. Bynum and B. Fantini (eds), *Parassitologia*, 36 (1994), 35-60.
- \*\* M. Worboys, 'From miasmas to germs: Malaria, 1850-1874 ; in *Ibid*, 83-106.
- \*\* W.F. Bynum, 'An experiment that failed: Malaria control at Mian Mir', *Ibid*, pp 107-120.
- \*\* V.R. Muraleedharan, 'Malady in Madras: The Colonial Government's Responses to Malaria in the Early Twentieth Century', in Deepak Kumar (ed), *Science and Empire: Essays in Indian Context* (Oxford University Press: New Delhi, 1991), pp. 101-14.
- \*\* Margaret Jones, 'The Ceylon Malaria Epidemic of 1934-35: A Case Study in Colonial Medicine', *Social History of Medicine*, Vol. 13, No. 1, April 2000, 87-109.
- \*\* Randall M. Packard, 'Maize, Cattle and Mosquitoes: The political economy of Malaria Epidemics in Colonial Swaziland', *Journal of African History*, 25, 1984, pp. 189-212.

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. – Experience of illness & management of disease 2: Smallpox

##### [SB]

- \*\* L. Stewart, 'The Edge of Utility: Slaves and Smallpox in the Early Eighteenth Century', *Medical History*, 29 (1985).
- \*\* D. Arnold, *Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth Century India* (University of California Press: Berkeley, 1993). Chapter 3, titled 'Smallpox: The Body of the Goddess'.
- \*\* S. Bhattacharya, 'Re-devising Jennerian Vaccines?: European Technologies, Indian Innovation and the Control of Smallpox in South Asia, 1850-1950', in Biswamoy Pati and Mark Harrison (eds), *Health*,

*Medicine and Empire: Perspectives on Colonial India* (Orient Longman Limited and Sangam Books, 2001).

- \*\* C. Huerkamp, 'The history of smallpox vaccination in Germany: A first step in medicalization of the general public', *Journal of Contemporary History*, 20, 617 (1985).
  - \* W.J. Leavitt, 'Politics and public health: Smallpox in Milwaukee, 1894-95', *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 50, 553 (1976).
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**HMED C118: DISEASE IN HISTORY: READING ASSIGNMENTS (2nd Term)**

**15<sup>th</sup> Jan. – Experience of illness & management of disease 3:**

**Tuberculosis [SB]**

- \*\* Sheila M. Rothman, *Living in the Shadow of Death: Tuberculosis and the Social Experience of Illness in American History* (Basic Books, 1994), esp. Introduction and chs 1, 2 or 7, 11 and 15.
- \*\* Bynum, *Science*, chs 7-8.
- \*\* Barbara Bates, 'Quid pro Quo in Chronic Illness: Tuberculosis in Pennsylvania, 1876-1926', in Rosenberg & Golden
- \*\* Michael Worboys, 'The Sanatorium Treatment for Consumption in Britain, 1890-1914', in John V. Pickstone (ed.), *Medical Innovations in Historical Perspective* (Macmillan, 1992), pp. 47-71.
- \* Randall M. Packard, *White Plague, Black Labor: Tuberculosis and the Political Economy of Health and Disease in South Africa* (University of California Press: Berkeley, 1989).

**22<sup>nd</sup> Jan. – Disease and imperial superiority: Tuberculosis & Mental**

**disease [SB]**

- \*\* Mark Harrison and Michael Worboys, 'A Disease of Civilization: Tuberculosis in Britain, Africa and India, 1900-1939', in Michael Worboys and Lara Marks (eds.), *Migrants, Minorities and Health* (Routledge, 1997).
- \*\* Waltraud Ernst, 'Colonial policies, racial politics and the development of psychiatric institutions in early nineteenth century British India', in Waltraud Ernst and Bernard Harris (eds), *Race, Science and Medicine, 1700-1960* (Routledge: London, 1999), pp. 80-100.
- \*\* Megan Vaughan, 'Health and Hegemony: Representation of Disease and the Creation of the Colonial Subject in Nyasaland', in D. Engels and S. Marks (eds), *Contesting Colonial Hegemony: State and Society in Africa and India* (British Academic Press: London), pp. 173-201.

\* Randall M. Packard, *White Plague, Black Labor: Tuberculosis and the Political Economy of Health and Disease in South Africa* (University of California Press: Berkeley, 1989).

Warwick Anderson, 'Disease, Race and Empire', *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 70, 1996, pp. 62-67.

Waltraud Ernst, *Mad tales from the Raj: The European Insane in British India* (Routledge: London & New York, 1991).

### **29<sup>th</sup> Jan. – Disease and imperialism: Tropical Diseases [SB]**

\*\* John Farley, 'Parasites and the Germ Theory of Disease', in Rosenberg & Golden

\*\* Michael Worboys, 'Germs, Malaria and the Invention of Mansonian Tropical Medicine: From "Diseases in the Tropics" to "Tropical Diseases"', in David Arnold (ed.), *Warm Climates and Western Medicine: The Emergence of Tropical Medicine, 1500-1900* (Rodopi, 1996), pp. 181-207

\*\* Michael Worboys, 'The Emergence of Tropical Medicine: A study in the establishment of a scientific specialty', in Gerard Lemaine, Roy MacLeod, Michael Mulkay and Peter Weingart (eds), *Perspectives on the Emergence of Scientific Disciplines* (Chicago: Aldine, 1976), pp. 75-98.

\*\* Bynum, *Science*, ch. 6

John Farley, *Bilharzia: A History of Imperial Tropical Medicine* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1991).

Warwick Anderson, 'Immunities of Empire: Race, Disease and the New Tropical Medicine, 1900-1920', *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 70, 1996, pp. 94-118.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Disease and heredity [BB]**

\*\* Robert C. Olby, 'Constitutional and Hereditary Disorders', in W.F. Bynum & Roy Porter (eds), *Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine* (Routledge, 1993), pp. 412-437

- \* Diane B. Paul, *Controlling Human Heredity: 1865 to the Present* (Humanities Press, 1995)

### **12<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Disease as social diagnosis: Poverty [BB]**

- \*\* John M. Eyler, 'The Sick Poor and the State: Arthur Newsholme on Poverty, Disease, and Responsibility' in Rosenberg & Golden
- \*\* Elizabeth Fee, 'Henry E. Sigerist: His Interpretations of the History of Disease and the Future of Medicine', in Rosenberg & Golden

### **19<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Reading week: No lecture**

### **26<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Disease & Deviance: Homosexuality [BB]**

- \*\* Jeffrey Weeks, 'The Construction of Homosexuality', chapter 6 of *Sex, Politics & Society: The Regulation of Sexuality Since 1800*, 2nd edn (Longman, 1989)
- \*\* Bert Hansen, 'American Physicians' Discovery of Homosexuals, 1880-1900: A New Diagnosis in a Changing Society' in Rosenberg & Golden
- \* Ronald Bayer, 'Politics, Science and the Problem of Psychiatric Nomenclature: A Case Study of the American Psychiatric Association Referendum on homosexuality', in H. Tristram Engelhardt and Arthur L. Caplan (eds), *Scientific Controversies: Case Studies in the Resolution and Closure of Disputes in Science and Technology* (Cambridge University Press, 1987), pp. 381-400

### **4<sup>th</sup> March. – Negotiating disease 1: Influenza, public health & the law**

#### **[SB]**

- \*\* F.R. Van Hartesveldt, 'The government and the flu. British public response to the epidemic of 1918-1919', *Social Science Perspectives*, 1, 1986, pp. 35-49.
- \*\* S.M. Tomkins, 'The failure of expertise: Public health policy in Britain during the 1918-19 Influenza Epidemic', *Social History of Medicine*, 5, 3, 1992, pp. 435-54.

- \*\* I.D. Mills, 'The 1918-19 Influenza Epidemic: The Indian Experience', *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 23, 1, 1988, pp. 1-40.
- \*\* Geoffrey W. Rice, 'Japan and New Zealand in the 1918 influenza pandemic: Comparative perspectives on official responses and crisis management', in Howard Phillips and David Killingray (eds), *The Spanish Influenza Pandemic of 1918-19: New perspectives* (Routledge: London, 2003), pp. 73-85.
- \*\* Mridula Ramanna, 'Coping with the influenza pandemic: The Bombay experience', Howard Phillips and David Killingray (eds), *The Spanish Influenza Pandemic of 1918-19: New perspectives* (Routledge: London, 2003), pp. 73-85.

### **11<sup>th</sup> March – Negotiating disease 2: Smallpox, compulsory vaccination & the law [SB]**

- \*\* Dorothy Porter and Roy Porter, 'The Politics of Prevention: Anti-Vaccinationism and Public Health in Nineteenth-Century England', *Medical History*, 32 (1988), pp. 231-252.
  - \*\* Nadja Durbach, '“They Might As Well Brand Us”: Working Class Resistance to Compulsory Vaccination in Victorian England', *Social History of Medicine*, Vol. 13, No. 1 (April 2000), 45-62.
  - \*\* Paul Greenough, 'Intimidation, Coercion and Resistance in the Final Stages of the South Asian Smallpox Eradication Campaign, 1973-1975', *Social Science and Medicine*, Vol. 4, No. 5, 1995, 663-645.
  - \*\* A. Beck, 'Issues in the Anti-Vaccination Movement in England', *Medical History*, 4 (1960), pp. 310-321.
- R. M. MacLeod, 'Law, Medicine and Public Opinion: The Resistance to Compulsory Health Legislation, 1870-1907', *Public Law*, Summer (1967), 101-28, 189-211.

### **18<sup>th</sup> March – Making of an epidemic: Anorexia nervosa [BB]**

- \*\* Joan Jacobs Brumberg, 'From Psychiatric Syndrome to "Communicable" Disease: The Case of Anorexia Nervosa', in Rosenberg & Golden
- \*\* Sonja van't Hof and Malcolm Nicolson, 'The Rise and Fall of a Fact: The Increase in Anorexia Nervosa', *Sociology of Health & Illness* 18 (1996), 581-608
- Brenda Parry-Jones, 'Historical Terminology of Eating Disorders', *Psychological Medicine* 21 (1991), 21-28

### **25<sup>th</sup> March – Historical perspectives on AIDS [BB]**

- \*\* Jeffrey Weeks, 'AIDS and the Regulation of Sexuality', in Virginia Berridge and Philip Strong (eds), *AIDS and Contemporary History* (Cambridge University Press, 1993), pp. 17-36
- \*\* Virginia Berridge and Philip Strong, 'AIDS Policies in the United Kingdom: A Preliminary Analysis', in Elizabeth Fee and Daniel M. Fox (eds), *AIDS: The Making of a Chronic Disease* (University of California Press, 1992), pp. 297-326
- \* Steven Epstein, *Impure Science: AIDS, Activism and the Politics of Knowledge* (University of California Press, 1996)
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## HMED C118: Disease in History: First Term Essay

### **Deadline – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2003**

The essay for this term will take the form of a book review of about six sides (about 1,500 words) of one of the following books:

1. W H McNeill, *Plagues and peoples* (Penguin, 1976)
2. Alfred W Crosby, *Ecological Imperialism: The biological expansion of Europe, 900-1900* (Cambridge University Press, 1986)
3. Kenneth Carpenter, *History of Scurvy and vitamin C* (Cambridge University Press, 1986)
4. David Arnold, *Colonizing the body: State medicine and epidemic disease in nineteenth-century India* (University of California Press, 1993)
5. Sheila Rothman, *Living in the Shadow: Tuberculosis and the Social Experience of Illness in American History*, (Basic Books, 1994)
6. Barbara Bates, *Bargaining for life: A social history of tuberculosis, 1876-1938* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1992)
7. J J Blumberg, *Fasting Girls - The emergence of anorexia nervosa as a modern disease*, Harvard University Press, 1988.
8. John Farley, *Bilharzia: A history of imperial tropical medicine* (Cambridge University Press, 1991)
9. Jacques Quézel, *History of Syphilis* (Polity Press, 1990)
10. Tony Gould, *A Summer Plague, Polio and its Survivors* (Yale University Press, 1995)

You should pretend that you have been asked to review it for *The Guardian* or *The Times Literary Supplement* (both of them ordinarily pay but in this case, the fee will be waived). Your review should above all demonstrate that you have read and thought about the book. While you should briefly discuss (or summarize) the book's contents, you should primarily assess the aims of the book and evaluate how well the volume achieves the author's stated aims. If, in addition, you are able to bring in bits of other work on the general topic, so much

the better. The review should be about 4-6 sides in length. Copies of the books are in the student loan collection.

There are other monographs on the history of disease which would be acceptable by arrangement.

HMED 118: Disease in History: Second Term Essay
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**Deadline – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2004**

The essays in Rosenberg and Golden explore a variety of ways in which diseases have been 'framed' historically. For your own second term essay, we want you to assume that a second edition of the volume has been called for, and the news of your first term's efforts has got abroad, with the natural consequence that you have now been asked to contribute an essay to this new edition. Obviously you cannot write on a disease which is already in the first edition. The world is full of lots of diseases, and we leave the final choice to you, with the caveat that you must not write on the same disease as your first term's book review, and if you choose a disease covered in the lectures but not in Rosenberg and Golden, your own essay should go beyond the lecture and required reading. Your essay should be DOUBLE SPACED and be properly referenced. It should be 8-10 pages (ca. 2-3,000 words).

There are good introductory essays on some of the major **kinds** of disease (nutritional, endocrinological, mental, tropical sexually transmitted; plus a general essay on cancer) in the *Companion Encyclopedia* from which you have already had Kiple's article as a handout. In addition, there are articles on most individual diseases in Kenneth Kiple (ed.) *The Cambridge World History of Human Disease*. There is a reference-only copy in the Student Loan Collection. Each of the articles has a bibliography, which should guide you to further sources. Subject index and key word searched on the Wellcome catalogue should also be helpful. Kiple is not particularly good on individual psychiatric conditions, but the essay by Jack Pressman on 'Concepts of mental illness in the West' has a good bibliography. You should have much freedom of choice (and consequently the demand on resources should be spread thinly). There are a variety of approaches that you could adopt; e.g. debates about a disease's status, its treatment, its cause, its experience, etc. General histories of x or y disease are

unlikely to prove very satisfactory; ideally your essay should pick up on some aspect of contention or debate, with a social dimension, and a remembrance of the range of factors which go into the 'framing' of disease.